

SUMMARY

The above Amendment and following Remarks are responsive to the points raised in the September 29, 2004 Office Action. In the Office Action, the Election/Restriction was clarified. The Applicant elected Group I for prosecution on April 23, 2004. Claims 30-42 have been Withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner in view of the Election. Claim 13 was objected to under 37 CFR § 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 1, 6, 7, 13-15, 17, 28 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by *Fedelem et al.* Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fedelem et al.* Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fedelem et al.* in view of *Schmitt*. Claims 2-5, 8, 11-12, and 18-27 were objected to, but were indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 20, 22, 24, and 28 will have been amended, claims 2 and 6 will have been canceled, claims 43 and 44 will have been added and claims 1, 3-5, and 7-45 will be pending in this application. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

REMARKS

Response to the Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103:

Claims 1, 6, 7, 13-15, 17, 28 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by *Fedelem et al.* Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fedelem et al.* Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fedelem et al.* in view of *Schmitt*. Since the rejections applied to these claims are based on the same reference, Applicant will address these rejections together. Applicant traverses these rejections.

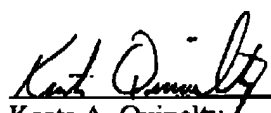
Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 2, which has been canceled. Claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form. Claim 6 has been canceled. Claims 1, 4, 20, 22, 24, and 28 now include a limitation drawn to a pressurization or depressurization valve, neither of which is disclosed in *Fedelem et al.* or the other cited art. Claims 7 and 43 include a limitation that the device is twistably insertable into a fuel pipe of the vehicle, which is not shown or taught by *Fedelem et al.* or the other cited art or combinable therewith. Accordingly, all independent claims include limitations that distinguish over the prior art and are allowable. The claims that depend respectively therefrom are likewise allowable as inheriting the allowable subject matter of the independent claims.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for the timely consideration of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0528.

Respectfully submitted

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Date


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